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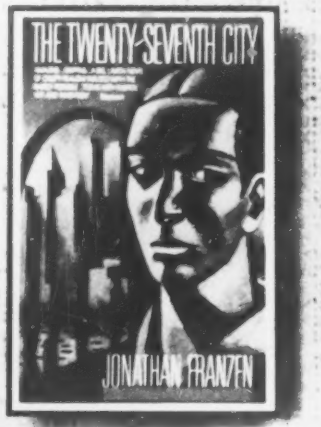
Publishers Weekly®

A CAHNERS/R.R. BOWKER PUBLICATION THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF BOOK PUBLISHING OCTOBER 20, 1989 $2.50

********** 5-DIGIT 20814
SAMPLE CPS 001 0637
PW CNGRESS201029 SAV INC
CONGRESSIONL INFO SRV INC
STATISTICAL REFERENCE INX
4520 EASY-WEST HWY 800
BETHESDA, MD 20814

AVON TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION

SPRING 1990



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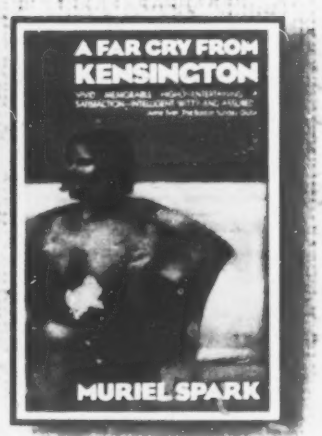

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AVON TRADE PAPERBACKS
The Hearst Corporation

AVON BOOKS 105 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016

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Publishers Weekly

VOLUME 236 NUMBER 15 *THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF BOOK PUBLISHING* OCTOBER 20, 1989
ISSN 0000-0019

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NEWSBRIEFS NEWSBRIEFS

INDUSTRIALIST ARMAND HAMMER has threatened legal action to halt publication of Little, Brown's unauthorized biography *Armand Hammer: The Untold Story* by Steve Weinberg. An initial printing of 50,000 has been shipped. At press time, Roger Donald, publisher of Little, Brown, said no suit had as yet been filed and added, "We are confident that this book is a carefully researched, accurate portrait." Hammer has initiated litigation against the book's British publisher, Ebury Press.

NEARLY HALF of the state's 40 publishers have formed the Vermont Book Publishers Association to "share information and to develop cooperative marketing opportunities." Officers are Jack Williamson, Williamson Publishing, president; Margo Baldwin, Chelsea Green Publishing, vice-president; Christopher Lloyd, the Countryman Press, secretary; and Beth Dingham, New Victoria Press, treasurer.

IN AN UNUSUAL COLLABORATION, the University of Rochester and British academic publisher Boydell and Brewer have formed a new imprint, the University of Rochester Press, scheduled to begin publishing in 1990. Representatives from both parties will select and edit manuscripts, and Robert Easton, head of U.S. operations for Boydell and Brewer, will serve as acting editor. The university will provide offices and secretarial assistance, and Boydell and Brewer will handle printing, materials, marketing, accounting and sales. Revenues will be shared.

THE BETSY NOLAN GROUP, based in Manhattan, is now the Nolan/Lehr Group. Donald Lehr, who joined the agency in 1982 and became vice-president in 1987, will buy controlling interest and is president. Betsy Nolan, whose title is now founding partner, established the group in 1972 and in 1981 created a literary agency that also bears her name. "This new arrangement," she said, "will enable me to continue to play an active role in the PR firm and to expand the literary agency." She expects to spend a week per month on the West Coast.

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT declined to consider noted feminist Andrea Dworkin's appeal of her libel suit against *Hustler* magazine for several cartoons it published five years ago. A lower court had ruled against Dworkin on grounds the cartoons constituted opinion and were protected by the First Amendment. Also, it said, Dworkin was unable to prove that *Hustler* engaged in "actual malice."

IN RESPONSE to the growing internationalism of the publishing industry, the William Morris Agency has named Marcy Posner director of foreign rights in the literary department.

Robert Gottlieb, head of the literary department, said Posner would "spearhead" the agency's international sales: "Her appointment represents an opportunity to enhance our already substantial foreign presence and realize the global potential within the wide range of our client list." It includes such authors as James A. Michener, Tom Clancy, Gore Vidal, Stephen Coonts, Dominick Dunne and Susan Isaacs.

Posner began her 13-year publishing career at Pinnacle Books in New York. She went on to set up the publicity, promotion, advertising and subsidiary rights departments at Salem House. In 1986 she joined Pantheon as subsidiary rights director and publishing coordinator and was eventually named associate publisher. In addition to overseeing all foreign rights negotiations at William Morris, she will develop her own client list.

AAP Sales Report for August

Category	% change, August*	% change, YTD
Adult hardcover	32.6	7.7
Adult paperback	16.0	13.6
Juvenile hardcover	22.4	15.9
Juvenile paperback	44.4	42.3
Univ. pr. hardcover	30.5	14.6
Univ. pr. paperback	26.8	13.2
Bibles, etc.	-1.8	6.6
Mass market paperback	14.7	5.9
Book club	5.0	2.7
Mail order	18.3	20.1
Sci-tech	-8.1	-0.5
College texts	21.3	19.1
School texts	10.9	12.9

**Percent changes measured against same time periods, 1988.*

OBITUARY NOTES

Arnold W. Ehrlich, former editor-in-chief of *Publishers Weekly*, who brought a contemporary sensibility to a 100-year-old trade journal, died of lung cancer October 3 in New York City. He was 66.

At the time of his death he was deputy editor of *Town & Country* magazine, which he joined in 1984 after serving as executive editor of Arbor House and executive editor, New York, of Atlantic Monthly Press. Earlier in his career he was articles editor of *Show* and *Venture* magazines and also spent 10 years with *Holiday*, where his last post was managing editor.

During his tenure at *PW* from 1971 to 1977, Ehrlich made a number of changes drawing on his background in consumer magazines, making *PW* more approachable for a non-specialized readership. He also extended the reach of its coverage. He created the feature-style series of author interviews and used photographs and line art extensively. In his efforts to streamline the publication, he made lesser but significant changes, such as dropping the apostrophe from the magazine's name and renaming departments.

Ehrlich introduced the practice of devoting entire issues to publishing in areas outside the East Coast metropolitan areas and ran wide coverage of overseas activities by Herbert R. Lottman, whom he appointed to the staff and who remains the magazine's international correspondent.

While engrossed by the business of publishing, Ehrlich never forgot that the business was based on the book and its writer. He concluded his editorial marking *PW*'s centennial in 1972—a time when the industry was apprehensive of both space-age technology and growing conglomeration—with these words: "Loud praise for all in the world of books who keep a free spirit moving even as the present merges nervously with the future."

Ralph Ernest Henderson, creator and first editor-in-chief of Reader's Digest Condensed Books, died October 6 in Mount Kisco, N.Y. He was 90.

In 1925, Henderson became the first employee hired by *Reader's Digest* founders DeWitt and Lila Wallace. Two years later, when the magazine added a book section featuring condensed nonfiction works, Henderson was its editor. In 1949 Henderson urged the company to launch a hardcover series of popular fiction, which became Reader's Digest Condensed Books. He headed its editorial operation until his retirement in 1965. □